

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



320631

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2009

From: James Mitchell, OSC

Subject: Polrep #2

Caterpillar Oil Spill

2200 Channahon Road (US-6), Rockdale, IL

Latitude: 41.4831

Longitude: -88.1372

POLREP No.:	2	Site #:	
Reporting Period:	02/10/2009	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	2/8/2009	Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:	2/8/2009	Response Type:	Emergency
Completion Date:		NPL Status:	
CERCLIS ID #:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
RCRIS ID #:		Contract #	
FPN#	E09508	Reimbursable Account #	

Site Description

The National Response Center (NRC) received a call at 1039 CST on 02/08/2009 about an oil spill at the Caterpillar facility at 2200 Channahon Road, Rockdale, Illinois (near Joliet, IL). The Des Plaines River is located along the southern property boundary of the Caterpillar facility. USEPA OSC and their START contractor mobilized to the site and received the following details regarding the spill.

- ☐ at approximately 2400 hrs on 2/8/09, the alarm of the API oil/water separator sounded (the oil/water separator receives industrial oily waste water from the Caterpillar plant)
- ☐ the automatic shut off controls of the oil/water separator failed and the contents overflowed onto concrete area surrounding the separator and holding tanks
- ☐ security noticed the incident at 0745 and notified Caterpillar emergency personnel
- ☐ Rockland Fire Department and Will County HAZMAT arrived onsite
- ☐ Caterpillar emergency personnel notified local public works, USEPA, IEPA, USCG, Heritage (Caterpillar contractor)
- ☐ all notified personnel onsite to assess incident
- ☐ approximately 65,000 gallons of waste oil (~30% is oil and 70% water) was released from the API oil/water separator
- ☐ approximately 10% of the release is expected to have reached the Des Plaines River

Current Activities

See Initial POLREP for activities that occurred on 2/8/2009 ☐ 2/9/2009.

On 2/10/09, the following activities were conducted during the Caterpillar Oil Spill

Response:

- ☐ Heritage and Eagle Services continued cleanup activities on land and river (including work performed through the previous night and early morning). Cleanup activities consist of vacuuming up oil soaked gravel/soil and liquid; pooling liquids into dug holes for easier removal; using sorbent pads to soak up any oil sheen on river and on ground; and staging removed gravel/soil for later disposal.
- ☐ At 0900, the USCG performed a shoreline assessment between mile markers 286 and 278. The assessment revealed small-area sheens in boomed areas. Specifically, the USCG estimated that less than 1 gallon of waste oil was inside the boom at the Caterpillar plant; less than 0.5 gallon of waste oil was inside one of the Empress Casino booms; a slight sheen was observed inside another of the Empress Casino booms and this was anticipated to be coming out of the boom itself. USCG indicated that booms along the River at both the Empress Casino and at the Caterpillar spill area are to be replaced.
- ☐ USCG demobilized from the site. USCG opened the Des Plaines River for barge traffic and was satisfied with the outcome of their shoreline assessment at 0900.
- ☐ At 1000 during an all-hands meeting, Caterpillar estimated that 98 percent of the spill had been cleaned up.
- ☐ A meeting was held between U.S. EPA, IEPA, Caterpillar, CRA (Caterpillars environmental consultant contractor), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to discuss future sampling efforts. In summary, three areas are to be addressed: the land spill area, the River shoreline/embankment path of the spill; and the River. Results are to be compared to IEPA TACO levels, constituents of waste oil that spilled, and possibly ecological benchmarks. CRA is to provide a copy of their sampling plan to all parties next week.
- ☐ Oil-soaked gravel was placed into lined rolloff boxes for future disposal.
- ☐ Boom was replaced around Empress Casino. Crew collected up oil soaked debris and used sorbent pads to absorb any oil sheen in boomed areas near Empress Casino.
- ☐ At approximately 1400, the shoreline/embankment cleanup at Caterpillar was completed.
- ☐ Fresh sorbent boom was placed inside slick boom along Caterpillar shoreline.
- ☐ An additional 4,000 gallons gravel vacuumed up today

Next Steps

- ☐ Monitor site thru the night to assure integrity of berm and boom is maintained in the event of heavy rains
- ☐ Continue/complete any shoreline cleanup required
- ☐ U.S. EPA OPA personnel to perform an SPCC inspection tomorrow
- ☐ Sampling Plan to be provided by Caterpillar's contractor, CRA, by Tuesday, February,

17, 2009

- ☐ Gravel cleanup to be completed by approximately 2000 today

Key Issues

- ☐ Heavy rains expected late in the evening

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

www.epaosc.net/CaterpillarOilSpill